

What's New in the MPDC

MAY 28, 2001

DC RECEIVES "A" IN DRIVER, PASSENGER SAFETY; REPORT CARD COINCIDES WITH SEAT BELT MOBILIZATION

The District of Columbia is one of only three jurisdictions to receive a grade of "A" in a new National Safety Council report on driver and passenger safety. The Safety Council praised DC's adult seat belt law as the "strongest in the nation" and commended its participation in "Operation ABC Mobilizations" and other seat belt and child safety seat enforcement efforts. At 83 percent, the District's high seat belt use rate is the sixth highest in the nation, and the city has a low unrestrained fatality rate. "We got an 'A' on this report card because we are serious about our commitment to driver and passenger safety," said Chief Ramsey. His remarks came during the kickoff in Northwest DC of the nationwide Memorial Day "Operation ABC Mobilization" (America Buckles-up Children). For more information about this mobilization, including links to the National Safety Council Report and the District's driver and passenger safety laws, go to:

Many people will be driving and boating this holiday weekend. Know the laws in DC on drinking and driving:

www.mpd.org (Click on Safety Tips)

And for detailed information on boating safety and the resources of the MPDC's Harbor Patrol, check out:

www.mpd.org

www.mpd.org (Click on News)

CRIME DROPS SHARPLY IN APRIL; HOMICIDES DOWN ONE-THIRD FOR THE YEAR

According to preliminary statistics, crime in DC fell by more than 14 percent in the month of April, with reductions in seven of the eight major crime categories. Through the first four months of the year, crime in the District is down more than 3 percent, according to the preliminary data. The biggest reduction, year to date, has been in homicides. Citywide, they have declined from 91 during the first four months of 2000 to 61 for the same period of 2001. Reported burglaries and sexual assaults have also experienced double-digit decreases. Robberies, however, have risen by 22 percent and arsons by nearly 12 percent, year to date. So far this year, crime is down almost 18 percent in the Fourth District and nearly 11 percent in the Second District. Get detailed summaries of preliminary crime statistics for each police district and the city as a whole by going to:

While the MPDC is pleased the ongoing reduction in crime, we know that continued success will depend on the police and community working together. Learn more about the District's community policing strategy and how you can get involved:

***www.mpd.org
(Click on Policing for Prevention)***

www.mpd.org (Click on Crime Statistics)

COACHES NEEDED FOR YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The District of Columbia Housing Authority's (DHCA) Office of Resident Services is seeking qualified Metropolitan Police and DCHA Police Officers, as well as concerned citizens, to serve as coaches and assistant coaches for DCHA's Youth Violence Prevention Basketball League (YVPBL). The purpose of the YVPBL is to steer at-risk youth away from crime and violence by providing them with positive recreational opportunities and life skills education. The use of police officers as coaches will also serve to create better relationships between police and public housing youth. For complete information about this opportunity, go to:

www.mpdc.org (Click on News)

Former Assistant Chief Rodney Monroe, who commanded MPDC's Office of Youth Violence Prevention, recently was named Chief of the Macon (Ga.) Police Department. Chief Ramsey has since named Inspector Robin Hoey to head up the Department's youth violence prevention efforts. For information about MPDC's programs to reduce youth crime and violence, including the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs, call Inspector Hoey's office at 202-727-7752. For information about the Boys and Girls Clubs, including their summer Camp Brown, click on:

www.mpbgc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here is a preview of some of the events and announcement in the coming week:

- ▶ 2001 World Police & Fire Games Torch Run. May 29, 10 a.m. From the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial to RFK Stadium. For more information about the games, go to **www.2001wpfg.org/home/**
- ▶ Announcement of new speeding enforcement strategy, to include the region's first photo radar system. May 31. Watch for information on the MPDC Web site.
- ▶ DC Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. June 1. 11 a.m. US Capitol to Fort McNair. For more information, including how you can make a donation, visit **www.specialolympics.org/torchrun**

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL: 3-1-1 FOR POLICE NON-EMERGENCIES

Learn more about the MPDC's toll-free telephone number for reporting police non-emergencies at:
<http://www.mpdc.org/> (click on Telephone Directory)

And you or your group can get 3-1-1 materials — brochures, flyers, refrigerator magnets and stickers — by calling 202-727-9346 or e-mailing: kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
WWW.MPDC.ORG